



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Governor Parnell Signs Silver Alert Legislation**

July 10, 2013, Anchorage, Alaska - Governor Sean Parnell signed legislation today that will help in the recovery of missing and vulnerable adults.

House Bill 59, dubbed the *Silver Alert* and sponsored by Representative Max Gruenberg, requires the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Department of Public Safety to develop and implement notification plans to more quickly locate missing vulnerable adults. Governor Parnell signed the legislation at the Anchorage Senior Activity Center.

"This bill will place in statute and more fully implement a valuable public notification system to help ensure the search for Alaska's missing vulnerable adults happens quickly and efficiently," Governor Parnell said. "We treasure our seniors in Alaska and we want to keep them safe. The *Silver Alert* system will help us do that."

Currently, 29 states have a *Silver Alert* or similar program for the recovery of missing vulnerable adults. These states have seen a success rate of nearly 95 percent. In 2015 the population of Alaskans aged 60 and older is estimated to be 100,000, and by 2024 the population is expected to grow to 155,000.

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